

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

AID-05 /072 W

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R 080958Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2616

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

DIRNSA WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK TH

UNCLAS BANGKOK 8981

USIA PASS IEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, MILI, TH

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENT: U.S. FORCES IN THAILAND

1. BANGKOK PRESS REPORTED APRIL 8 THAT DEMOCRAT DEPUTY LEADER PICHAI RATTAKUL, TIPPED AS POSSIBLE FOREIGN MINISTER IN NEW RTG, TOLD NEWSMEN THE U.S. MILITARY "WILL HAVE TO PULL OUT ACCORDING TO THE DEADLINE" OF JULY 20.

2. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NATION QUOTED PICHAI: "I DON'T THINK A DEMOCRAT-LED COALITION GOVERNMENT WILL ALLOW THE REMAINING AMERICANS TO STAY ON. I BELIEVE M.R. SENI PRAMOJ WILL CONTINUE TO ABIDE BY THE DECISION OF THE PRESENT CARETAKER GOVERNMENT" THAT ALL BUT 270 U.S. MILITARY ADVISORS MUST LEAVE.

3. NATION EDITORIAL APPLAUDED PICHAI COMMENTS AND CAUTIONED: "THIS IS A HIGHLY EMOTIONAL ISSUE AND IF THERE IS ANY CHANGE TO THE WITHDRAWAL PLAN OF THE AMERICANS OR THE DEADLINE FOR THE DISMANTLING OF THE ELECTRONIC OBSERVATION BASES, THE NEW
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GOVERNMENT WILL STIR UP A HORNETS NEST." FOR TEXT SEE FBIS

BK080130 Y.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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